

Hawai'i

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<http://www.hawaii.gov/health/rules/11-54.pdf> and

http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/standards/wqslibrary/hi/hawaii_9_wqs.pdf

§11-54-01 Definitions. As used in this chapter:

- "Amphidromous" means aquatic life that migrate to and from the sea, but not specifically for reproductive purposes. Amphidromous aquatic life in Hawai'iian streams are confined to fresh waters as adults, but their larval stages are partially or entirely spent in the ocean as part of the zooplankton.
- "Anchialine pools" means coastal bodies of standing waters that have no surface connections to the ocean but display both tidal fluctuations and salinity ranges characteristic of fresh and brackish waters, indicating the presence of subsurface connections to the watertable and ocean. Anchialine pools are located in porous substrata (recent lava or limestone) and often contain a distinctive assemblage of native aquatic life. Deeper anchialine pools may display salinity stratification, and some shallow pools may contain standing water only on the highest tides.
- "Aquatic life" means "any type or species of mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, mollusk, crustacean, arthropod, invertebrate, coral, or other animal that inhabits the freshwater or marine environment and includes any part, product, egg, or offspring thereof; or freshwater or marine plants, including, seeds, roots, products, and other parts thereof".
- "Estuaries" means characteristically brackish coastal waters in well-defined basins with a continuous or seasonal surface connection to the ocean that allows entry of marine fauna. Estuaries may be either natural or developed.
- "Introduced aquatic life" means those species of aquatic organisms that are not native to a given area or water body and whose populations were established (deliberately or accidentally) by human activity.

- "Introduced" organisms are also referred to as "alien" or "exotic".
- "Low wetlands" means freshwater wetlands located below 100 m (330 ft) elevation that may be natural or artificial in origin and are usually found near coasts or in valley termini. Low wetlands are maintained by either stream, well, or ditch influent water, or by exposure of the natural water table. Low wetlands include, but are not limited to, natural lowland marshes, riparian wetlands, littoral zones of standing waters (including lakes, reservoirs, ponds and fishponds) and agricultural wetlands such as taro lo'i.
- "Native aquatic life" means those species or higher taxa of aquatic organisms that occur naturally in a given area or water body and whose populations were not established as a result of human activity.
- "Natural estuaries" means volumes of brackish coastal waters in well-defined basins of natural origin, found mainly at the mouths of streams or rivers. Natural estuaries can be either stream-fed (drowned stream mouths fed by perennial stream runoff) or spring-fed (nearshore basins with subterranean fresh water sources). Stream-fed estuaries serve as important migratory pathways for larval and juvenile amphidromous stream fauna.
- "Natural freshwater lakes" means standing water that is always fresh, in well-defined natural basins, with a surface area usually greater than 0.1 ha (0.25 acres), and in which rooted emergent hydrophytes, if present, occupy no more than 30% of the surface area. Natural freshwater lakes in Hawai'i occur at high, intermediate, and low elevations. Lowland freshwater lakes characteristically lack a natural oceanic connection (surface or subsurface) of a magnitude sufficient to cause demonstrable tidal fluctuations.

§11-54-03 Classification of water uses.

- (a) The following use categories classify inland and marine waters for purposes of applying the standards set forth in this chapter, and for the selection or definition of appropriate quality parameters and uses to be protected in these waters. Storm water discharge into State waters shall be allowed provided it meets the requirements specified in this section and the basic water quality criteria specified in section 11-54-04.
- (b) Inland waters.
 - (1) Class 1. It is the objective of class 1 waters that these waters remain in their natural state as nearly as possible with an absolute minimum of pollution from any human-caused source. To the extent possible, the wilderness character of these areas shall be protected. Waste discharge into these waters is prohibited. Any conduct which results in a demonstrable increase in levels of point or nonpoint source contamination in class 1 waters is prohibited.
 - (a) Class 1.a. The uses to be protected in class 1.a waters are scientific and educational purposes, protection of native breeding stock, baseline references from which human-caused changes can be measured, compatible recreation, aesthetic enjoyment, and other nondegrading uses which are compatible with the protection of the ecosystems associated with waters of this class;
 - (b) Class 1.b. The uses to be protected in class 1.b waters are domestic water supplies, food processing, protection of native breeding stock, the support and propagation of aquatic life...
 - (2) Class 2. The objective of class 2 waters is to protect their use for recreational purposes, the support and propagation of aquatic life, agricultural and industrial water supplies, shipping, and navigation. The uses to be protected in this class of waters are all uses compatible with the protection and propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife, and with recreation in and on these waters. These waters shall not act as receiving waters for any discharge which has not received the best degree of treatment or control compatible with the criteria established for this class...
- (c) Marine waters.
 - (1) Class AA. It is the objective of class AA waters that these waters remain in their natural pristine state as nearly as possible with an absolute minimum of pollution or alteration of water quality from any human-caused source or actions. To the extent practicable, the wilderness character of these areas shall be protected. No zones of mixing shall be permitted in this class:
 - (a) Within a defined reef area, in waters of a depth less than 18 meters (ten fathoms); or
 - (b) In waters up to a distance of 300 meters (one thousand feet) off shore if there is no defined reef area and if the depth is greater than 18 meters (ten fathoms). The uses to be protected in this class of waters are oceanographic research, the support and propagation of shellfish and other marine life, conservation of coral reefs and wilderness areas, compatible recreation, and aesthetic enjoyment. The classification of any water area as Class AA shall not preclude other

uses of the waters compatible with these objectives and in conformance with the criteria applicable to them;

- (2) Class A. It is the objective of class A waters that their use for recreational purposes and aesthetic enjoyment be protected. Any other use shall be permitted as long as it is compatible with the protection and propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife, and with recreation in and on these waters. These waters shall not act as receiving waters for any discharge which has not received the best degree of treatment or control compatible with the criteria established for this class.

(d) Marine bottom ecosystems.

- (1) Class I. It is the objective of class I marine bottom ecosystems that they remain as nearly as possible in their natural pristine state with an absolute minimum of pollution from any human-induced source. Uses of marine bottom ecosystems in this class are passive human uses without intervention or alteration, allowing the perpetuation and preservation of the marine bottom in a most natural state, such as for nonconsumptive scientific research (demonstration, observation or monitoring only), nonconsumptive education, aesthetic enjoyment, passive activities, and preservation;
- (2) Class II. It is the objective of class II marine bottom ecosystems that their use for protection including propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife, and for recreational purposes not be limited in any way. The uses to be protected in this class of marine bottom ecosystems are all uses compatible with the protection and propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife, and with recreation.

§11-54-05.2 Inland water criteria.

(b) Specific criteria for streams.

(2) Bottom criteria for streams:

- (e) The director shall prescribe the appropriate parameters, measures, and criteria for monitoring stream bottom biological communities including their habitat, which may be affected by proposed actions. Permanent benchmark stations may be required where necessary for monitoring purposes. The water quality criteria for this subsection shall be deemed to be met if time series surveys of benchmark stations indicate no relative changes in the relevant biological communities, as noted by biological community indicators or by indicator organisms which may be applicable to the specific site.